

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (currently amended): An onboard device abnormal connection notification system comprising:

an onboard device connected to an in-vehicle network;

a monitor means connected to said in-vehicle network for monitoring an abnormality in a state of connection of said onboard device to said in-vehicle network; and

a notification means connected to said in-vehicle network for notifying, based on a demand from said monitor means, the abnormality in the ~~state~~state of connection of said onboard device.

2. (original): The system according to claim 1, wherein said monitor means demands said onboard device to confirm the connection thereof to said in-vehicle network and, if there is no response from said onboard device within a lapse of a predetermined period of time, demands said notification means to notify the abnormality.

3. (original): The system according to claim 1, wherein said monitor means demands said onboard device to confirm the connection thereof to said in-vehicle network at every predetermined period of time, and wherein said onboard device notifies said notification means of the abnormality in the state of connection of said monitor means if there is no demand for confirmation of connection from said monitor means at said every predetermined period of time.

4. (original): The system according to claim 1, further comprising a notification releasing means for temporarily releasing a notifying operation of said notification means.

5. (original): The system according to claim 1,
wherein a network identification (ID) for discriminating said in-vehicle network is registered in said monitor means and said onboard device,
wherein, when said onboard device is connected to said in-vehicle network to which said monitor means is connected, said onboard device obtains from said monitor means a network ID in said connected in-vehicle network, compares the registered network ID with the obtained network ID, and stops the operation of said onboard device if the two ID's are different from each other.

6. (original): The system according to claim 5, wherein said onboard device comprises a nonvolatile memory for registering therein the network ID.

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7. (original): The system according to claim 5, wherein, when a display device equipped with an input apparatus for inputting the network ID is connected to said in-vehicle network and when the network ID is inputted into said input apparatus, said display device notifies the inputted network ID to said monitor means, said notification means and said onboard device connected to said in-vehicle network.

8. (original): The system according to claim 1, wherein a device number is set in advance to said onboard device connected to said in-vehicle network, wherein said onboard device grasps all the device numbers of onboard devices connected to said in-vehicle network, and wherein an onboard device, among the onboard devices to be connected to said in-vehicle network, having a smallest device number operates as said monitor means.

9. (original): The system according to claim 8, wherein said monitor means demands said onboard device for confirmation of connection to said in-vehicle network at every predetermined period of time and wherein, if there is no demand for confirmation of connection from said monitor means at said every predetermined period of time, an onboard device that has set thereto a smallest number exclusive of the device number of said monitor means among the onboard devices connected to said in-vehicle network operates as a new monitor means.

10. (original): The system according to claim 1, wherein said in-vehicle network is wirelessly connected.

11. (original): The system according to claim 10, wherein said onboard device comprises an interface (I/F) processing section for connection to said in-vehicle network, and wherein said I/F processing section is made of a wirelessly transmitting means.

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12. (original): An onboard device connected to an in-vehicle network having connected thereto an abnormal connection notification means, characterized in that, in order to notify to said notification means of an abnormality from a monitor means connected to said in-vehicle network, upon receipt of a demand for confirmation of connection to said in-vehicle network, a state of connection is confirmed and reported to said monitor means.

13. (original): The onboard device according to claim 12, wherein, if there is no demand for confirmation of connection from said monitor means at every predetermined period of time, the abnormality in state of connection of said monitor means is notified to said notification means.

14. (original): The onboard device according to claim 12, wherein a network identification (ID) for discriminating said in-vehicle network is registered,

wherein, when said onboard device is connected to said in-vehicle network to which is connected said monitor means having registered therein a network ID, the network ID of said connected in-vehicle network is obtained from said monitor means, the registered network ID is compared with the obtained network ID, and the operation of said onboard device is stopped if the two ID's are different from each other.

15. (original): The onboard device according to claim 14, further comprising a nonvolatile memory for registering the network ID.

16. (original): The onboard device according to claim 12, wherein a device number set in advance to each of onboard devices connected to said in-vehicle network is grasped, and wherein a device, among the onboard devices to be connected to said in-vehicle network, having a smallest device number operates as said monitor means.

17. (original): The onboard device according to claim 16, wherein, if there is no demand for confirmation of connection from said monitor means at said every predetermined period of time, an onboard device that has set thereto the smallest number exclusive of the device number of said monitor means among the onboard devices connected to said in-vehicle network operates as a new monitor means.

18. (original): The onboard device according to claim 12, further comprising an interface (I/F) processing section for connection to said in-vehicle network, and wherein said I/F processing section is made of a wirelessly transmitting means.